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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



[*The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in this Department.*]

PRESENTATION TO MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK, FOUNDER OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES

DEAR EDITOR: As the members of the International Council of Nurses which met in London last July have now scattered to the four quarters of the globe, may I be permitted through the courtesy of THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING to thank all the American nurses who so kindly subscribed to my international gift, to commemorate the founding of the International Council of Nurses?

Our president, Fraulein Agnes Karll, in notifying me of this generous token of professional friendship, asked me to select the gift, and with great pleasure I have chosen a fine old English silver salver of pure Chippendale design, made by the worthy silversmith William Peaston in the year 1752. It has been suitably inscribed, and was recently presented to me by Miss Isla Stewart, matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

This beautiful testimonial—the first I have accepted during the twenty years I have been privileged to work publicly for the organization of the noble profession of nursing—will ever remain one of my most valued possessions, as symbolizing the good fellowship and fine humanitarian feeling which are the inspiration of our International Council of Nurses.

With affectionate regard I remain,

Yours faithfully,

ETHEL G. FENWICK.

USE OF ALCOHOL

DEAR EDITOR: The use and abuse of alcohol are due to imperfect teaching very largely. Pupils should be made to understand that the rubbing of the back and other parts to prevent bedsores is of more importance than the alcohol. Of late years I use very little alcohol, as it is expensive and difficult to get in the country, and I have no trouble from bedsores.

MONTANA.

ANSWERS TO EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.

DEAR EDITOR: I feel that the JOURNAL is of so much interest and holds the nurses all over the country in close touch with one another, I am sorry for those who must do without it. You have my best wishes for another year.

I enclose a few answers to some recent examination questions which may be instructive as well as amusing.

Question. What is lavage?

Answer. Lavage is a secretion that comes from the larynx.

Question. Give the composition of air.

Answer. Air contains oxygen, nitrogen, hydrogen, phosphorus, with a trace of chloride of sodium and sulphur.

Question. What could a nurse do to produce emesis? To control it?

Answer. Don't allow the patient to exercise too early, or to walk, or she will be deformed for life.

Question. What do you consider an ideal diet?